

focus

But sanctify the Lord God in Your hearts:
and be ready always to give an answer to
every man that asketh you a reason of the
hope that is in You with meekness and fear:

1 PETER 3 : 15

6th Sunday of Easter

VI Niedziela po Wielkanocy

May 21, 2017

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 77.

First reading: Acts 8:5-8,14-17

Psalm: Ps 66:1-7,16,20

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Epistle: 1 Peter 3:15-18

Gospel: John 14:15-21

Intention: for the health and healing of Madison Dunlap

Celebrant: 9:30am and 11:30am Rev. James Konicki

Lector: 9:30am Daniel DiLanne, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Easter Lauds at 9:20am. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite). May Marian Devotion
- Coffee Hour, First Communion/Confirmation classes.
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).

7th Sunday of Easter

VII Niedziela po Wielkanocy

May 28, 2017

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 77.

First reading: Acts 1:12-14

Psalm: Ps 27:1,4,7-8

I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.

Epistle: 1 Peter 4:13-16

Gospel: John 17:1-11

Intention: for the health and healing of Madison Dunlap

Celebrant: 9:30am and 11:30am Rev. James Konicki

Lector: 9:30am Larry Panfil, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Easter Lauds at 9:20am. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite). May Marian Devotion
- Coffee Hour, First Communion/Confirmation classes.
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).

“By the death of martyrs religion has been defended, faith increased, the Church strengthened; the dead have conquered, the persecutors have been overcome. And so we celebrate the death of those of whose lives we are ignorant. So, too, David rejoiced in prophecy at the departure of his own soul, saying: ‘Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.’ He esteemed death better than life. The death itself of the martyrs is the prize of their life. And again, by the death of those at variance hatred is put an end to.” – St. Ambrose of Milan

Sick Calls and Hospital Visits – Please know that hospitals will not advise parishes when an individual is admitted. Confidentiality regulations prevent them from doing so. If someone is admitted please let Father Jim know so he might visit, pray with, anoint, and bring Jesus’ healing presence to them. Call Fr. Jim at 518-522-0944. You may also call Fr. Mark Gnidzinski at 518-453-2258.

Contact

Holy Name of Jesus

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In an emergency: Fr. James Konicki at

518-522-0944 or 518-765-2134

On the Web: www.holynamencc.org



Upcoming...

- **May 21: 6th Sunday of Easter, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **May 22: Holy Mass for Healing at 6:15pm. Parish Committee Meeting.**
- **May 23: Commemoration of the Martyrdom of Jerome Savonarola.**
- **May 25: Solemnity of the Ascension of our Lord. Holy Mass at 8am – NOTE TIME CHANGE**
- **May 28: 7th Sunday of Easter, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **May 29: Memorial Day. Holy Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Cemetery at 10am (weather permitting).**
- **June 1-30: Sacred Vocations Month – pray for many vocations to the priesthood and diaconate among the men of our Church and that they have courage to follow them.**
- **June 4: Solemnity of Pentecost, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **June 11: Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **June 12: Feast – St. Barnabas the Apostle (translated)**

We invite all who believe in the true presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist to partake. It is our practice to distribute the Holy Eucharist by intinction. The Body and Blood of Christ are placed on the tongue, never in the hand.

A reason for hope.

Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who defame your good conduct in Christ may themselves be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be the will of God, than for doing evil.

Today, we hear St. Peter advising the members of the early Church to bear up under persecution. But that isn't the starting point. He isn't recommending that we sit around, awaiting persecution, before we show the strength of our faith. He recommends that our starting point is always to offer hope to every and anyone who asks us for a reason for our hope.

Always being ready to offer hope is our calling as Christians. The world is so full of hopelessness, loss, and the seemingly unfillable gap

between where we are and where we want to be.

Our call is to show that the gap isn't the end, you get there and fall into nothingness. Rather, we must tell the world that one never has to face that chasm anymore – for Jesus Christ, risen and alive – has filled it. He has bridged the gap. He is our hope and our gift – to offer in *gentleness and reverence*, with clear *conscience*.

People around us must deal with the hopelessness that we used to face – part and parcel of the sinful human condition. As followers of Christ we have already recognized that hopelessness has been overcome. The depth of death is no more. Darkness has been crushed and light is ours. We have taken hold of the Savior and His tools that overcome hopelessness. We can point every and anyone we meet to Him and use His tools to share the promise of true hope.

According to a recent Pew Forum

study, there is persecution of Christians in 131 of the 193 countries in the world. That's almost 70%. The people Peter wrote to were similarly being slandered and threatened. Their witness to Christ's hope made them the constant targets of those who served the empire and hailed nation as lord. They had a choice. Leave hope behind and again face the gap, the deep pit of despair, or stand firm in the Holy Spirit, the promises of Jesus Christ they held.

Peter reminds us that to this very day, regardless of the world's resistance, irrespective of persecution, the promise of Jesus Christ is hope-filled. Jesus' execution by the world was not the end. It was the beginning of hope.

From a merely human point of view, death is the end, the gap cannot be filled, and the chasm cannot be crossed. But thanks be to God, death is ended, the bridge is in place, and we can take the hand of every and anyone and offer them a reason for hope.

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Romans 12:12

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Romans 15:13
MONDAY: Jeremiah 29:11
TUESDAY: Romans 5:2
WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 40:31
THURSDAY: Hebrews 11:1
FRIDAY: Romans 8:24
SATURDAY: Hebrews 6:19

Pray

Lord Jesus, You give me reason for hope. Grant that I may overcome every challenge by my faith in You.

Memorial Day Holy Mass

The Holy Church joins the nation in the solemn remembrance of Memorial Day. We will gather for Holy Mass at our parish cemetery (or in our parish church in the case of inclement weather) on Monday, May 29th at 10am for Holy Mass. In doing so we pray for all of those who have died in combat defending our nation and all of our veterans who have also been called to their eternal rest.

Solemnity of the Ascension

The church celebrates the Solemnity of the Ascension on the 40th day after Easter as is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. Why is this day important to us? It isn't only that Jesus is returning to His rightful place of honor in heaven. Rather it shows us that Jesus, who emptied Himself and came as a man, who lived, ate, laughed, cried, suffered, and died as a man, whose human body was glorified in the resurrection also ascended in that glorified body into heaven. This is our assurance that we too will rise and live in heaven eternally with Him in our glorified bodies. The parish will hold Holy Mass on Thursday, May 25th at 8am (NOTE THE TIME CHANGE) in celebration of the Solemnity.

Mother Mary

The Holy Church dedicates the month of May to Mother Mary. Mary was significant in Jesus' life and formation, and for this reason we honor her, especially during the month of May. Let us take a moment each day to reflect on her ministry and example and ask Jesus to help us become more like her. At the end of each Holy Mass we will offer special Marian devotions.

Rogationtide

This Sunday is commonly called Rogation Sunday. Rogation Sunday begins the little Season of "Rogationtide." Rogationtide consists of the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before Ascension Day. Rogare is Latin for "to ask." At this time of year, when crops are being planted and beginning to grow, the Church asks for a good harvest and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth. For centuries petitions have been made to God on these days for preservation from plagues and natural calamities and especially for His blessing on the growing crops. *O Lord, deliver us from lightning and tempest; from plague, pestilence, and famine. Give and preserve to our use the fruits of the earth, so as in due time we may enjoy them.*

New Online Giving Option

Our parish website has a new online giving option. You may donate, offer a memorial donation or a donation for a special need, or pay you membership dues online. See www.holynamenc.org/giving/.

Upcoming Events

- Independence Day Celebration, Holy Mass, and Picnic, Bishop Hodur Retreat and Recreation Center, Waymart, PA, July 1st.
- Kurs 2017. Bishop Hodur Retreat and Recreation Center, Waymart, PA, July 1st-8th.
- National United Choirs Convention and Workshop, Holy Trinity Cathedral, Manchester, NH, July 26th-28th.

Of note...

Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Alice and George Houser, Angela Kaminski, Ed Jakubiak, Rick Kaminski, Mariea Chase, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Stefan Węglinski, Robert & Stephanie Dominy, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Bishop Stanley, Brian Soos, Virginia Lamb, Virginia Rogers, Curtis Szczepkowski, Derek Westcott, Dolores Konicki, Pastor Tom Kendall, Joshua Moraski, Sue & Roger White, Chris Tatlock, Ceil & Eddie Gibbons, Helen Pasiak, Jessie Feathers-Ostrowski, Lucas Taylor, Joanne Bauer, Shirley Greene, Madison Sheridan, Eddie Stover, Karen & Jacob, Sean and Jessie Wilcox, Snyder Family, Amber Tatlock, Kathleen Hietala, Vicky Stover, Joe Barratiere, Tom Abbot, Dennis, Donnie Wright, Karen Kisch, Joe Emmanuel, Gregory Henderson, Muse En Lystrala, Vince Cacamo, Theresa Ordon, Robert Baia, Michelle Zawistowski, Faith, Adam, Allyson Keyser, Richard and Suzette Place, Amanda Carr, Tyler Hoffman, the Hoffman Family, Daniel Dilanne, Warren Tatlock, Susan Jones, Vincenzo DiIanne, Cassandra Wade, Garry Packer, Madison Dunlap, All in need of God's healing grace.

- All those who serve in the Armed Forces of the United States esp. Michael Angehr, Mark Collins, Patric Jones.
- All those in Public Service, Police Officers and Fire Fighters.
- All Active and Retired Clergy of the Holy Polish National Catholic Church.
- All Students and Teachers at Mont Pleasant Middle School
- The residents and staff of City Mission of Schenectady
- All who have asked for our prayers.

We continue in prayer and intercession for one of the parishes or ministries in the Polish National Catholic Church. This week we remember and pray for the clergy and people of Holy Cross Parish, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Very Rev. Thaddeus Dymkowski, Pastor.

Bless them, O Lord! Pobjogostaw im, O Boże!

Coffee Hour: Coffee hour is held every week after 9:30am Holy Mass. Thank you to all who assist with this ministry of hospitality. All are welcome to join with us each week. If you can, please help out.

Parish Organizations: Did you know that our Parish has many organizations that need you? The YMSofR - Men's Society of the Resurrection Branch 56, ANS – Women's Adoration Society, Choir, Parish Committee, and a hopefully reconstituted branch of the PNU (Spójnia) all need your help. See Father Jim.

--- Share Easter joy and invite others to glory in the cross of Jesus at Holy Name. ---